

Interior Announces \$43 Million Agreement for Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project



From left to right is President Shelly, Secretary Salazar, BIA Employee Calvert Curley, BIA Navajo Regional Deputy Director Timothy DeAsis, BIA Eastern Agency Superintendent Lester Tsosie, Barry Longwell, and Pat Page

Navajo Nation will design and construct significant part of major infrastructure project

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar and Navajo Nation President Ben Shelly today announced a \$43 million financial assistance agreement for design and construction of a portion of the Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project. The leaders broke ground in June on the historic project, which, when completed, will have the capacity to deliver clean running water to a potential future population of approximately 250,000. Today's milestone is one in a series of steps that are part of the larger Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project.

"Today's agreement signifies not only another major milestone in progress toward the Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project, but also the high priority that the Obama Administration has



placed on completing the project to deliver clean running water to Navajo communities—many for the first time," said Secretary Salazar.

The \$43 million agreed upon today will enable the Navajo Nation to complete the lower reaches of the Cutter Lateral—one of two branches of the project. The Navajo Gallup Water Supply Project will provide a long-term, sustainable water supply to 43 Navajo Chapters; the city of Gallup, New Mexico; and the southwestern portion of the Jicarilla Apache Nation.

"The Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project is a great project for the Navajo Nation," said Navajo President Ben Shelly. "We are going to bring safe drinking water to thousands of Navajo families. We are also going to create more than 600 jobs for our people. I want to thank every agency that's involved in making this project a reality for our people."

Under the terms of today's agreement, the Navajo Nation will be responsible for the design, construction, and oversight of Reaches 24.1, 25, and 26 of the Cutter Lateral, which consists of approximately 43.4 miles of water pipeline, a pumping station, and four storage tanks. Construction will be located on the Navajo Reservation along the U.S. Highway 550 corridor south of Farmington, New Mexico. The project participants already have begun design and other pre-construction work, and water delivery to communities along the Cutter Lateral could occur as soon as 2015.

"This project is a matter of improving the quality of life for Diné people in the affected communities," said Navajo Speaker Johnny Naize. "The council and I are delighted to know that this project will enable easier access to safe drinking water and create opportunities for development and growth."

The first construction contract for Reaches 24.1 and 25 is expected to be awarded in the spring of 2013. All reaches under today's agreement are scheduled to be constructed by 2016. The pipeline will extend from an area near the community of Counselor and tie into the existing distribution systems for the communities of Ojo Encino, Torreon, and Pueblo Pintado.

The Bureau of Reclamation will be responsible for the design and construction of the uppermost reach of the Cutter Lateral, including the Cutter Lateral Water Treatment Plant.

The larger Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project is the cornerstone of the Navajo Nation Water Rights Settlement in the San Juan River Basin in New Mexico. Project authorization was provided by Congress in the Omnibus Public Lands Management Act of 2009, and supplemental funding for the project was obtained in the Claims Settlement Act of 2010. The project consists of two separate branches, Cutter and San Juan Laterals; approximately 280 miles of pipeline; two water treatment plants; and several pumping plants and storage tanks.

The project is one of 14 high-priority infrastructure projects identified by the Obama Administration to be expedited through the permitting and environmental review process. The first construction contract was awarded in April, 2012 for Reach 12A on the San Juan Lateral. The entire project is scheduled to be completed by 2024. The current status of the project is publicly available through the Federal Infrastructure Projects Dashboard web site designed to enhance efficiency, accountability, and transparency of the federal permitting and review process for all 14 high-priority infrastructure projects.



Photo below



From left to right is First Lady Martha Shelly, President Ben Shelly, and Secretary Salazar. In the photo, the President is giving some gifts from the Navajo Nation to the Secretary. Gifts include the bolo tie that the Secretary is wearing, coffee mug with the Seal of the Navajo Nation, and a Navajo Nation flag.

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Price's Dairy becomes Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge



Secretary Salazar addresses the crowd at the ceremony announcing the purchase of the former Price's Dairy land just south of Albuquerque and announcing the selection of the name Valle De Oro National Wildlife Refuge

By Mary Carlson
Public Affairs Specialist
Albuquerque Area Office

New Mexico is now officially home to the first urban wildlife refuge in the southwest and Reclamation owns part of the senior water rights.

Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar visited the former Price's Dairy or Valley Gold Farms site located just south of Albuquerque on September 27th to announce that the Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bernalillo County, the Trust for Public Land and the Albuquerque Metropolitan Area Flood Control Authority had closed on the 390 acres of farm land and about 250 acre-feet of senior water rights.



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“This is the first purchase of surface water rights Reclamation has made along the Rio Grande in New Mexico,” Albuquerque Area Manager Mike Hamman said of Reclamation’s purchase of 154 acre-feet of pre-1907 water rights. “We’re excited about this purchase and the potential to use these water rights to offset some of our activities for endangered species in the Middle Rio Grande.”

The 559th unit of the national wildlife system is within a 30-minute drive of half of New Mexico’s population because of its close proximity to Albuquerque.

“Bringing this land into public ownership will give residents and visitors alike access to a beautiful natural space right here in our state’s largest city,” said Sen. Jeff Bingaman, D-N.M.

“Too many kids get more television time than outdoor time, but this new wildlife refuge is our opportunity to change that,” said Rep. Martin Heinrich, D-N.M. “This wildlife refuge will help New Mexico kids discover the incredible natural heritage of our state, and it represents an important investment in their health and well-being.”

On September 21, 2012, Reclamation closed on the purchase of 154 acre-feet of senior water rights appurtenant to 73.3 acres of land for \$2 million. The Fish and Wildlife Service closed on the purchase of 390 acres of land and about 98 acre-feet of water. In November 2011, the New Mexico Office of the State Engineer (NMOSE) granted a license to confirm that the Price’s Dairy owned pre-1907 surface water appurtenant to 260 acres of land. Reclamation plans to use the water rights to help meet the needs of the endangered Rio Grande silvery minnow.



The view of the Rio Grande bosque from the Valle De Oro National Wildlife Refuge, which is currently an active farm

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Groundbreaking Ceremony for the Ridgway Dam Hydropower Project



Ridgway Dam and Reservoir

On Monday, October 1, 2012 the Tri-County Water Conservancy District hosted a “ground-breaking” ceremony for the Ridgway Dam Hydropower Project. The project will generate electricity using existing water releases from Ridgway Dam throughout the year. Ridgway Dam is located near Ridgway, Colo. and is a feature of the Dallas Creek Project, which is a federal Reclamation project designed to provide irrigation and drinking water to Montrose, Delta, and Ouray counties in western Colorado. The district is still finalizing designs and permits. Actual construction will begin after designs and permits are approved.



Photos of the ground-breaking ceremony



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Thoughts from the Front Office

Howdy. So, can we all agree that we have too many “years” to keep track of? For starters we have: Calendar year, fiscal year, light year, water year, leap year..... Then, you have someone saying “Happy New Year!” on October 1 and your first reaction is “What?????” Here’s what I propose – I won’t say “Happy New Year!” but I will cover a bit of information about our accomplishments during Fiscal Year 2012 and things to be aware of in Fiscal Year 2013. Here goes.....

FY2012 was such a busy and successful year. We essentially finished construction on the Animas-La Plata Project and we initiated construction on the Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project. We completed two Environmental Assessments regarding actions that involve Glen Canyon Dam and we initiated the Long Term Experimental and Management Plan EIS (also, involving Glen Canyon Dam). We completed and issued the Record of Decision as the last item of the Aspinall Unit EIS process. We made great progress on the Middle Rio Grande Collaborative Program and the efforts to obtain a new Biological Opinion. Let me observe that “extreme” conditions really test our abilities and I am so very proud of how you responded and even excelled during the very wet conditions in 2011 and the very dry conditions in 2012. I know that I risk leaving out many outstanding achievements whenever I start listing your accomplishments. So, let me just congratulate you for all the wonderful things that you have done to serve the public. Also, please spend a few minutes reflecting on things that you personally worked on and then think of the teamwork and support that was necessary for you to do your job. I am very proud of this region’s accomplishments and I hope you are too.

Now to FY2013. All of those things that we initiated in the previous year – well, we have to continue or complete them this year. Regarding our budget, we have a Continuing Resolution in place for the first six months of the fiscal year. That CR just went into effect on October 1 and we are still learning what the spending rules are. However, we do know that we must continue our efforts to accomplish our work (especially contracts and acquisitions) earlier in the fiscal year. We did a bit better in FY2012 than previous years but we still had too many fiscal obligations that wound up in the last month of the fiscal year. Last year, some of you received Project Management training – this year, we must use what was learned as we implement Project Management on a larger scale. I believe that these efforts plus the initial implementation of the Workload Management System (we are importing this from the PN Region and starting



our usage in the acquisitions area) will help us better manage our work, improve coordination and will result in a less hectic end of the fiscal year experience.

There are many other changes and areas of emphasis that will effect most, if not all, of us in FY2013. For example, our finance and accounting systems are undergoing a major conversion with the implementation of the Department's FBMS system. All of the other bureaus in DOI have made this conversion and now it is our turn. The FBMS implementation will take all year and may also require that we start "closing the books" on FY2013 in the early to mid-September timeframe. Stay tuned and we will keep everyone updated as we get more information.

Additionally, in the next month or two, we will convert to a new e-mail system. This new system is already being tested by a few employees around Reclamation. More information and training will be coming very soon – so, stay tuned on this one too.

A long time ago, I heard someone say that one of the few constants in our lives is change. The items listed above (and all of the other things that aren't listed) certainly support that statement. Thanks again for all that each of you are doing and for the excellent public service that results.

Cheers, Larry W.

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We Can Help Prevent the Infestation by Aquatic Invaders



By UC Region Dreissenid Response Team

What's black and white and spread all over? Answer: zebra and quagga mussels (*Dreissenids*)

Natives of the Black and Caspian Seas (zebra mussels) and of the Ukraine (quagga mussels) are thumb-sized or smaller, striped bivalves that have been spreading throughout Europe and North America. So far, the UC Region waters have not received any definitive confirmation, but we have had several positive tests indicating their potential presence which is a cause for alarm.

Zebra and quagga mussels were originally introduced into the Great Lakes region in 1988 through ship ballast water and they quickly spread through eastern waters. These nonnative mussels start out as microscopic organisms that cannot be seen by the naked eye. By the time they have developed into adults, they have byssal threads. Byssal threads are strong, silky fibers made from proteins that allow mussels to attach to rock, pilings, or other substrates (native mussels do not have byssal threads). Most likely, the mussels that arrived in western waters got here attached to boats from back east. Now that western water bodies have become infested, these non-native mussels have increased their rate of spread throughout the west.

Decontamination is the only way to stop their spread. It does not harm your boat. It can actually prevent damage on your boat by removing mussels that would clog pumps and hoses. There are two ways to decontaminate your boat after pulling it out of the water:



1

Clean mud, plants, animals or other debris from your boat and equipment.

2

Drain the ballast tanks, bilge, livewells and motor.

3

Dry (7 days summer, 18 days spring/fall and 30 days in the winter) or freeze (3 days). Note dry time is dependent on ambient air temperatures and humidity levels.

OR

Professional decontamination is an alternative method (generally a free service) available at [many Utah waters](#). Certified personnel will wash your trailer and boat inside and out—flushing your ballast tanks, bilge, livewells and motor with high-pressure, scalding (140° F) water. This method is effective and does not harm your boat.

We need all employees to spread the word to boaters to keep their boats clean, drained, and dried when out of the water or moving between waters.

The UC Region has a control plan in place with the emphasis being placed on preventing the spread of zebra and quagga mussels. Should *Dreissena* mussels be found, then controlling their spread would be the focal point. This goal stems from requirements of Executive Order 13112. Today, the regional plan focuses on prevention, but also includes steps for early detection, monitoring, and various methods of control. Area offices have been working to develop facility-specific management plans to deal with the mussels.

Many environmental problems are associated with invasion by *Dreissena* mussels due to their efficiency as water filterers. (They filter about one liter of water per day per individual.) This efficient filtering behavior increases water clarity because large amounts of both plankton and inorganic particulates are removed from the water. Enhanced water clarity changes the growth of submerged plants which in turn impacts fisheries.

The mussels also create economic problems. The most visible and dramatic economic effects of *Dreissena* mussels have been on hydroelectric plants and other municipal and industrial facilities. In the United States, zebra mussels cost the power industry \$3.1 billion from 1993–1999, with an impact on industries, businesses, and communities of more than \$5 billion. Water intake pipes and structures become unusable due to the “bio-fouling” or accumulation of the mussels. In the Great Lakes region, industrial plants and public utilities have been shut down many times, costing millions of dollars in damages and lost production due to mussel cleanup. Lake Mead and other Reclamation water projects in the Lower Colorado Region are beginning to experience these operational and maintenance costs due to mussel infestation.

In addition to economic impacts to hydropower facilities and utilities, when *Dreissena* mussels infest a reservoir, they adversely impact recreation and the tourism industry. Boats and recreational watercraft may become infested, as well as buoys, ropes, piers, and docks. The mussels also adversely affect



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recreation by littering beaches and swimming areas with dead mussels and sharp shells. Another impact is that the air becomes polluted with the smell of decaying mussels.

We hope FY13 will be another successful year in preventing the infestation of these aquatic invaders.

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Employee Spotlight Deb Boggess



Deb Boggess is an administrative assistant/clerk for the Western Colorado Area Office in Grand Junction. She is currently responsible for organizing and maintaining data bases for the Resource Management Division. These data bases include drawings, photos, asset inventory, recreation use, and Foundation Information for Real Property Management. Deb is a federally licensed pesticide applicator and the weed and pest coordinator for the WCAO. She also updates the COO/ Pandemic Plan for the WCAO.

When asked what she likes about her job, Deb replied: "I love the fact that I am able to go back and forth between projects, not doing the same thing every day. I have my own time tables to get things done and that is usually NOW or YESTERDAY! I really love the history of the projects in our office. The Uncompahgre Project is over 100 years old! I have been working with Uncompahgre Valley Water Users to get project drawings from their office, giving those drawings numbers, making electronic tiffs, entering them in our drawing data base, and making copies for the water district. I love looking through all the history they have accumulated."



Because it is almost fiscal year end, Deb is currently getting ready for the Asset Inventory upload to GSA and OMB. It is her top priority. She said she wants our office to be 100% compliant.

Deb will have been with Reclamation 10 years in November, this has been her only federal employment. Before working for Reclamation, Deb helped her husband with his solar business for 6 years; worked for a local grocery chain meat department for 20 years, and was a nurse in Kansas before that. Her parents owned a grocery store and she worked with them during her school years. Deb started sorting pop bottles, trimming lettuce and stocking shelves at the ripe age of 10, as this was family time for her parents, sister and two brothers. Evenings and Sundays after church were spent cleaning, dusting, facing shelves, stocking and inventory as a family.

Currently, Deb enjoys spending time with her grandbabies. She loves traveling and 4-wheeling with her husband Virgil. She has two horses, Maybelle (black) and Alley (white) and two Weimaraner dogs, Sage (female) and Trax (male) whom are expecting puppies in early October.

An interesting tidbit Deb wanted to share was that she was raised in the small town of Burlington, Kansas on the Neosho River. There is a five mile dam on that river by the name of John Redmond Reservoir built by the Corp of Engineers. Deb literally lived on that river and at that reservoir, swimming, boating and fishing while growing up. Almost every memory outside of home, school and her parent's grocery store had to do with these two bodies of water. Deb said she finds it ironic; her life has come full circle, back to bodies of water and reservoirs.

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Seedskadee Public Scoping Meeting



Provo Area Office, Area Manager Curt Pledger

By Kerry Schwartz
Resource Program Manager
Provo Area Office

Reclamations's Provo Area Office conducted a public scoping meeting in Rock Springs, Wyoming on October 2, 2012. Staff members from the Provo Area Office attending the meeting included Curt Pledger, Kerry Schwartz, Dave Krueger, Jeffrey D'Agostino and Peter Crookston. Prior to the meeting, Curt asked Kerry, "How many people do you plan on attending the meeting?" Kerry replied, "We have handouts for 100--but you never know with these types of meetings." Curt later said that he was not surprised when only a small handful of people attended the meeting with little questions about the project or controversial questions.



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The meeting was held to invite the public to discuss the upcoming planned revocation of Reclamation withdrawn lands to the BLM, known as the Seedskadee Revocation Project. Reclamation plans to revoke approximately 141,275 acres of land. The project will require NEPA analysis in the form of an Environmental Assessment, being conducted by the Provo Office.

Even though only 15 people attended, Curt gave a powerpoint presentation to those in attendance to explain the project. In addition informative maps and fact sheets regarding the project were handed out to those in attendance.

Scoping comments, written and e-mail will be accepted by the Provo Area Office until October 16, 2012. Reclamation is planning to complete a draft NEPA document by February 2013 and a Final Document by April 2013, with the revocation being completed in late 2013. The Provo Lands group will be involved in that effort. Due to the sensitive nature within the local community of the Seedskadee project and the possible involvement of the US FWS and their desire to expand the Seedskadee Wildlife refuge, Reclamation was very clear in their presentation, that this effort only involves the revocation as the action being undertaken at this time. Members of the public and local municipalities were receptive to the proposed action and offered their support during the meeting.

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Commissioner's Office
Washington, DC

Media Contact: Name

For Immediate Release: Date

Science Projects Receive \$1.7 Million in WaterSMART Funding for Desert and Southern Rockies Landscape Conservation Cooperatives

WASHINGTON - Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner Michael L. Connor announced today 12 applied science projects will receive \$1.2 million, and Reclamation will partner with other federal agencies and contribute \$451,835 to applied science projects to benefit the Desert and Southern Rockies Landscape Conservation Cooperatives. This funding will be matched to provide more than \$3.5 million for these applied science projects.

"Landscape Conservation Cooperatives bring science and technical expertise together and develop tools for land managers to turn conservation plans into reality," Connor said today. "The projects we are funding will help resource managers build effective water management solutions in a changing climate."

Twelve projects received grants to meet the science needs of the LCCs. The entity must provide at least a 50-percent cost-share. The entities that will receive funding are:

- Alamosa Land Institute
- Arizona Game and Fish Department (2)
- Arizona State University (2)
- Colorado State University
- Desert Botanical Garden, Inc.
- New Mexico Office of the State Engineer
- Northern Arizona University
- The Nature Conservancy (2)
- University of Arizona

In addition, Reclamation solicited statements of interest from other federal agencies for partnership on science projects in the LCCs. Seven projects were identified to receive funding. The federal agencies partnering with Reclamation are:

- U.S. Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station (4)
- U.S. Geological Survey, Fort Collins Science Center
- U.S. Geological Survey, Southwest Biological Science Center (2)

LCCs are partnerships of governmental (federal, state, tribal and local) and non-governmental entities. The primary goal of the LCCs is to bring together science and resource management to inform



adaptation strategies to address climate change and other stressors within an ecological region defined as a landscape.

The Desert LCC encompasses portions of five states: Arizona, California, Nevada, New Mexico and Texas, as well as a substantial portion of Northern Mexico. The area is topographically complex, including three different deserts (Mojave, Sonoran and Chihuahuan), grasslands and valley bottoms, and the isolated mountain ranges in the southern portion of the LCC (Apache Highlands and the New Mexico-Texas Highlands, also known as the Sky Islands). There are several large river systems, including the lower Colorado, Gila, Rio Grande, San Pedro and Verde. To learn more about the Desert LCC, please visit www.usbr.gov/WaterSMART/LCC/dlcc/.

The Southern Rockies LCC encompasses large portions of four states: Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico and Utah, as well as smaller parts of Idaho, Nevada and Wyoming. The area is geographically complex, including wide elevation and topographic variation; from 14,000 foot peaks to the Grand Canyon and cold desert basins. This topographically complex region includes the headwaters of the Colorado River and Rio Grande, the Wasatch and Uinta Mountains to the west, and the Southern Rocky Mountains to the east, separated by the rugged tableland of the Colorado Plateau. To learn more about the Southern Rockies LCC, please visit www.usbr.gov/WaterSMART/LCC/srlcc/.

Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar established the WaterSMART program in February 2010 – the SMART in WaterSMART stands for "Sustain and Manage America's Resources for Tomorrow" – in cooperation with Commissioner Connor, Deputy Secretary David J. Hayes and Assistant Secretary for Water and Science Anne Castle. Funding for WaterSMART is focused on improving water conservation and helping water and resource managers make wise decisions about water use.

To learn more about WaterSMART, please visit <http://www.usbr.gov/WaterSMART>.

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Reclamation is the largest wholesale water supplier in the United States, and the nation's second largest producer of hydroelectric power. Its facilities also provide substantial flood control, recreation, and fish and wildlife benefits. Visit our website at <http://www.usbr.gov>.

Landscape Conservation Cooperative Project Funding

Desert Landscape Conservation Cooperative (DLCC)

University of Arizona, Supporting Watershed Management Planning for People and the Environment in the DLCC

Funding Opportunity Announcement

Reclamation Funding: \$150,000

Applicant Funding: \$150,000

The University of Arizona and the Gila Watershed Partnership will develop decision support tools for application to watersheds throughout the DLCC. The decision support tools proposed are 1) a baseline assessment of watershed conditions that includes potential impacts of climate change and 2) scenarios to address impacts of future watershed management scenarios identified by stakeholders. These assessments and scenarios will inform stakeholders in the Upper Gila River Watershed about projected impacts of water resources decisions and support their efforts to initiate a watershed plan. Project deliverables will assist the DLCC region with a step-by-step guide to developing baseline assessments and scenarios for human and environmental water needs in the context of climate change.

Desert Botanical Garden, Inc., From Genotype to River Basin: The combined impacts of climate change on bio-control on a dominant riparian invasive tree/shrub (*Tamarisk spp.*)

Funding Opportunity Announcement

Reclamation Funding: \$149,269

Applicant Funding: \$151,911

The Desert Botanical Garden, the Biological Pest Control Program, the Riparian Invasive Research Lab and Northern Arizona University will determine how the tamarisk leaf beetle combined with climate change will affect tamarisk populations throughout the DLCC region. The project will determine 1) if climate warming coupled with the tamarisk leaf beetle will reduce the negative impact of tamarisk on water resource management in western North America, 2) assess whether some tamarisk populations are more susceptible to the combination of climate change and tamarisk leaf beetle and 3) evaluate how genetic change in the tamarisk beetle species will enable beetle colonies to expand in the lower Colorado River Basin and extend the period of active feeding, thereby changing riparian vegetation in this region.

The Nature Conservancy, Defining Ecosystem Water Needs of the Upper Gila River and Assessing the Impacts of Climate Change

Funding Opportunity Announcement

Reclamation Funding: \$129,887

Applicant Funding: \$132,871

The Nature Conservancy will define ecosystem water needs and assess the impacts of climate change and proposed new water diversions, through the Arizona Water Settlements Act (New Mexico Unit), on hydrologic processes, riparian vegetation and aquatic habitat and associated wildlife species in the Upper Gila River in

New Mexico. The project will synthesize existing scientific literature and ecological analyses to evaluate the probable ecosystem impact of diversions under changing climate conditions.

**Arizona Game and Fish Department, A Landscape Approach for Fisheries Database
Compilation and Predictive Modeling**

Funding Opportunity Announcement

Reclamation Funding: \$99,661

Applicant Funding: \$108,584

The Arizona Department of Game and Fish and the University of Washington will produce a defensible data set and decision tool for the conservation of fish and other aquatic and riparian species in Arizona. The AZGF will also offer neighboring states the expertise and knowledge gained in this project. The project will compile and geo-reference fish observation data into a Geographic Information System. This new spatial database will then be used to develop a decision tool that can be used to forecast the spread of invasive species across the landscape.

**Alamosa Land Institute, Alamosa Creek and the Canada Alamosa Community: Aligning
ecological restoration and community interests through active experimentation**

Funding Opportunity Announcement

Reclamation Funding: \$35,113

Applicant Funding: \$35,113

The Alamosa Land Institute and Canada Alamosa Community will develop new information about local needs and ecological conditions in the agricultural community of Canada Alamosa and test the effectiveness of traditional resource management practices combined with restoration techniques supporting sustainable economic development. The Alamosa Land Institute will analyze existing example projects and the potential for demonstrating efficiency of restoring a riparian buffer within the existing Alamosa Creek channel and along irrigation ditches, planting field distractor crops and wind breaks and supporting habitat for pest predators. The project will result in the development of a model that can be used for scientific and agency support for local land managers to develop additional resource management tools that are designed to maximize ecosystem services.

**Arizona State University, Effects of Bio-control and restoration on wildlife in southwestern
riparian habitats**

Funding Opportunity Announcement

Reclamation Funding: \$90,337

Applicant Funding: \$90,469

Arizona State University, Northern Arizona University, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, University of California and Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology will determine if the introduction of the bio-control agent (tamarisk leaf beetle, *Diorhabda* spp.) as an insect consumer and defoliator of salt cedar influences wildlife populations and communities via alterations to food resources and/or habitat. The investigators will

take advantage of an existing program that introduced the beetle over the past two years by tracking changes in amphibian, reptile and avian communities.

Northern Arizona University, Assessing Evapotranspiration Rate Changes for Proposed Restoration of the Forested Uplands of the DLCC

Funding Opportunity Announcement

Reclamation Funding: \$135,332

Applicant Funding: \$136,734

Northern Arizona University and staff from the Salt River Project will assess the hydrological responses of forest thinning through detailed measurements and modeling of evapotranspiration. The primary research question is if new forest restoration treatments provide significant and lasting changes in evapotranspiration which benefit other components of the hydrologic budget. The validated modeling approaches for estimating ET that will be produced by the project will be useful to land managers for predicting impacts of vegetation manipulations on surface and groundwater availability.

U.S. Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station, Modeling Woody Plant Regeneration and Debris Accumulation Under Future Streamflow and Wildfire Scenarios in the DLCC
Statement of Interest

Reclamation Funding: \$51,840

Applicant Funding: \$52,000

The U.S. Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station will evaluate the effects of climate change and wildfire scenarios on the density of woody vegetation, snags and wood debris in the Middle Rio Grande basin and develop a tool that may be applied to other regions to project changes in tree density, snag density and amounts of woody debris over time. The information from this project will allow managers to make decisions regarding fuel reduction activities and water delivery with an awareness of how these decisions will affect the vulnerability of riparian obligate wildlife species.

U.S. Geological Services - Southwest Biological Science Center, The Impact of Ecosystem Water Balance on Desert Vegetation: Quantification of historical patterns and projection under climate change

Statement of Interest

Reclamation Funding: \$98,244

Applicant Funding: \$118,109

The U.S. Geological Survey, Southwest Biological Science Center will explore climate change impacts on vegetation across the Desert and Southern Rockies LCCs using historical monitoring data collected from 23 sites across the Sonoran, Chihuahuan, Mojave and Colorado Plateau deserts for 30-50 years. This data will then be combined with ecosystem water balance model simulations to establish features of water availability critical for plant species response. Results will allow managers to identify species and communities at risk under future climate scenarios based on predicted changes in plant water availability.

U.S. Forest Service - Rocky Mountain Research Stations, Vulnerability of Riparian Obligate Species in the Rio Grande to the Interactive Effects of Fire, Hydrological Variation and Climate Change

Statement of Interest

Reclamation Funding: \$89,940

Applicant Funding: \$89,933

The Grassland, Shrubland, Desert Program of the U.S. Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station intends to evaluate the interactive effects of fire and climate change on the presence and long-term persistence of native and non-native species within Rio Grande riparian and wetland habitats. Decision support tools and maps will be produced that will help resource managers identify conditions and locations where biodiversity will be most affected by future changes and identify needs with respect to species conservation and invasive species management.

Southern Rockies Landscape Conservation Cooperative (SRLCC)

Arizona Department of Game and Fish, A Landscape Approach for Fisheries Database Compilation and Predictive Modeling

Funding Opportunity Announcement

Reclamation Funding: \$99,661

Applicant Funding: \$108,584

The Arizona Department of Game and Fish and the University of Washington will produce a defensible data set and decision tool for the conservation of fish and other aquatic and riparian species in Arizona. The AZGF will also offer neighboring states the expertise and knowledge gained in this project. The project will compile and geo-reference fish observation data into a Geographic Information System. This new spatial database will then be used to develop a decision tool that can forecast the spread of invasive species across the landscape.

Colorado State University, National Wetland Inventory Mapping for the Colorado Portion of the SRLCC

Funding Opportunity Announcement

Reclamation Funding: \$73,187

Applicant Funding: \$74,370

The Colorado Natural Heritage Program of Colorado State University will use its expertise in wetland mapping to digitize original National Wetland Inventory maps for the Colorado portion of the Southern Rockies LCC. The project will complete the remaining 316 quads within the Southern Rockies LCC that lack digital wetland data. They will utilize automated image processing techniques to digitize scanned versions of the original NWI maps and convert them into geo-referenced polygonal data.

Arizona State University, Effects of Bio-control and Restoration on Wildlife in Southwestern Riparian Habitats

Funding Opportunity Announcement

Reclamation Funding: \$90,337

Applicant Funding: \$90,469

Arizona State University, Northern Arizona University, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, University of California and Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology will determine if the introduction of the biocontrol agent (tamarisk leaf beetle, *Diorhabda* spp.) as an insect consumer and defoliator of salt cedar influences wildlife populations and communities via alterations to food resources and/or habitat. The investigators will take advantage of an existing program that introduced the beetle over the past two years by tracking changes in amphibian, reptile and avian communities.

New Mexico Office of the State Engineer, Improving Crop Coefficients for the Middle Rio Grande

Funding Opportunity Announcement

Reclamation Funding: \$150,000

Applicant Funding: \$151,641

The New Mexico Office of the State Engineer is planning to improve crop coefficients for the Middle Rio Grande by assessing actual crop water use through the use of remote sensing technologies that estimate the evapotranspiration of individual crops within the basin. The results from this project will provide local, state and federal water managers with a better estimate of future water demand estimates from decision-making models based on climatic change and other water limiting factors by improving the accuracy of the calculation of water used by crops.

The Nature Conservancy, Evaluation of Decision Support System Platforms and Tools for Integrated Water Management in the Colorado River Basin

Funding Opportunity Announcement

Reclamation Funding: \$69,216

Applicant Funding: \$103,094

The Nature Conservancy will evaluate alternative decision support platforms and tools for incorporating ecological flow into water management for the Colorado River Basin. The project will result in recommendations for a decision support platform that links coarse and fine scale tools and for improving the Colorado River Simulation System as the central analytical tool for basin-wide water supply planning. This will build on the Colorado River Basin Water Supply and Demand study that is being led by Reclamation.

U.S. Forest Service - Rocky Mountain Research Station, Modeling Woody Plant Regeneration and Debris Accumulation under Future Streamflow and Wildlife Scenarios in the SRLCC

Statement of Interest

Reclamation Funding: \$51,840

Applicant Funding: \$52,000

The U.S. Forest Service - Rocky Mountain Research Station will expand cottonwood population models with data gathered from the Middle Rio Grande in New Mexico, into an applied science tool. This tool will model and predict changes in density of vegetation under various streamflow and wildfire scenarios. The model created will be useful to the Southern Rockies LCC by creating a code that will run model simulations after variables in density, tree species present and wildfire probability are entered by the user.

U.S. Geological Service - Fort Collins Science Center, A GIS-Based Evaluation of Fremont Cottonwood Stand Dynamics in the SRLCC

Statement of Interest

Reclamation Funding: \$37,400

Applicant Funding: \$37,400

The U.S. Geological Survey, Fort Collins Science Center is proposing to generate GIS-based evaluation of Fremont cottonwood stand dynamics in the Southern Rockies LCC. The first objective is to make the full data set available to the Southern Rockies LCC in a GIS platform suitable for additional spatial data analysis. This data will provide a baseline through which researchers in future years can assess changes in floodplain land cover and land use. They also plan to develop and apply a model of Fremont cottonwood stand dynamics in the Southern Rockies LCC, focusing on "survivorship" of stands made up of old trees. This part of the project will give water and riparian resource managers a better understanding of the urgency with which restoration or other management activities should be undertaken in order to maintain a specific amount and/or spatial configuration of mature cottonwood woodland.

U.S. Geological Service - Southwest Biological Center, The Impact of Ecosystem Water Balance on Desert Vegetation: Quantification of historical patterns and projection under climate change

Statement of Interest

Reclamation Funding: \$62,413

Applicant Funding: \$99,375

The U.S. Geological Survey, Southwest Biological Science Center will develop an applied science tool that would help resource managers understand how desert vegetation may be impacted by climate change as a result of changes in the water available in desert soils. The project will leverage an existing historical data collection effort that recorded soil water availability and productivity of different desert plants at test sites located throughout the desert southwest. The project will combine this observed data

into statistical models that would allow researchers to forecast climate-induced shifts in plant species performance by understanding past relationships between soil water availability and plant species abundance through time and space.

U.S. Forest Service - Rocky Mountain Research Station, Vulnerability of Riparian Obligate Species in the Rio Grande to the Interactive Effects of Fire, Hydrological Variation and Climate Change

Statement of Interest

Reclamation Funding: \$89,940

Applicant Funding: \$89,933

The U.S. Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station will conduct a risk analysis for riparian obligate species in the Rio Grande area of New Mexico with regards to wildfire, climate change and the effect of the aforementioned on streamflow. Under a few different climate change scenarios and a selection of target species, the team will produce several maps geared to resource managers displaying vulnerability of certain species under certain scenarios. The study will also result in a vulnerability analysis for various species regarding fire and climate change scenarios.



2012 ASC Field Trip and Site Visit Animas-La Plata Project



By Ryan Curtis
Regional Office

One of the many great things about working for the Bureau of Reclamation is the wide variety of training opportunities provided. As anyone who's participated in the Administrative Support Council (ASC) knows, it's not just about developing and improving administrative skills. One of the goals is to get out there and see for ourselves just what this organization is all about; and what better way to do that than pay a visit to one of the sites or features in the area.

This year the designated timeframe was set for August for all of our ASC. Initially devastated, due to the fact that I was scheduled to be in one of our other offices, I thought I was going to have to watch this opportunity float on by like a kayaker on the river. Fortunately that was not the case! Our incredible ASC Board Members pointed out the fact that this is not solely designated to the local commuting area. All ASC members region-wide were encouraged to visit a site, project, or feature in their respective areas. With a little help from a couple good folks in the Durango and Four Corners offices, we were able to plan



a tour of the Durango Pumping Plant and Ridges Basin Dam. I can't express how grateful I am to those individuals for helping us experience such an amazing little piece of what this organization is responsible for. A sincere special thanks to Beth Fox, Ruth Rydiger, and Dave Gates; as it was an amazing event that would never have happened without your help. For more photos in regards to the Animas-La Plata Project, you can visit our website at <http://www.usbr.gov/uc/progact/animas/photogallery/rbdam/index-rbd.html>.

Keep your eyes open for more exciting news and events from the ASC Board coming soon. Remember, they do this for us and we should try with all our might to participate in the opportunities provided for us.



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Annual Assurance Statement

Each year, Larry Walkoviak is required to sign the Annual Assurance Statement on behalf of the Upper Colorado region certifying that, *“based on the results of our evaluations, our office can provide reasonable assurance that internal controls over our respective programs, operations, and financial reporting were operating effectively and no material weakness were found in the design or operation of the internal controls over our respective programs, operations, and financial reporting. In addition, our office is providing reasonable assurance that all American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) projects are in compliance with the requirements of ARRA.”*

The Annual Assurance Statement is part of the Internal Control Review audit that happens every year. An internal control is an “activity, process, or procedure used to mitigate risk and to help organizations achieve its mission-related objectives. Controls are the activities used to accomplish organizational objectives, safeguard assets, and comply with laws and regulations in an effective, efficient manner. Controls may include critical processes for accomplishing organizational goals, program reviews, facility inspections, corrective action plans, or program monitoring activities.”

The three objectives of the internal control program are effective and efficient operations, reliable financial reporting, and compliance with applicable laws and regulations. Each year, a list is compiled by Denver with the reviews that will be included as backup for the Annual Assurance Statement. These reviews cover financial and program operations and involve many of the offices in our region including; Acquisitions, Finance, Human Resources, Security, Power, Lands and Technical Services. Each review on the spreadsheet is catalogued into Denver’s GRC (internal control reporting system) which then gives a final report of reviews done, any findings, etc. The final list of reviews is then attached to UC’s Annual Assurance Statement.

In conjunction with the other regions, UC’s Annual Assurance Statement is used by the Commissioner as he certifies Reclamation’s Annual Assurance Statement. You can then see why we take our internal control audit very seriously. Not only do we want to always do a great job, but our region’s and the Commissioner’s assurance statements are a direct reflection of the work we do here in UC Region.

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Motorcycle Helmet Safety



Safety Tips for Riders

When you ride your motorcycle or are a passenger, follow these tips to stay safe:

- **Always wear a DOT-approved helmet.**
- **Never ride your motorcycle after drinking.** Alcohol greatly impairs your ability to safely operate a motorcycle. If you have been drinking, get a ride home or call a taxi.
- **Do not let friends ride impaired.** Take their keys away.
- **Wear protective clothing that provides some level of injury protection.** Upper body clothing should also include bright colors or reflective materials, so that other motorists can more easily see you.
- **Avoid tailgating.**
- **Maintain a safe speed and exercise caution when traveling over slippery surfaces or gravel.**

Be sure to follow the Safety Features Guidelines:

- The “best” motorcycle helmet is one that provides ample motorcycle helmet safety. There are a few ways to ensure the efficiency of your motorcycle helmet.



- First, try out various helmets before settling on any one. Motorcycle comparison is an effective means of judging comfort, fit, and security. The helmet must fit snugly around your skull – pads can augment the fit, as well. Perfect motorcycle helmet size is a key component to motorcycle helmet safety.
- Second, check out the chinstrap. The motorcycle helmet's chinstrap must reach around your ear and under your chin comfortably and securely so that the helmet does not shift about laterally or lengthwise.
- Third, assess the overall fit. A motorcycle helmet should be settled low on the forehead and just above the eyebrows. Make sure the helmet appears straight and aptly situated by using a mirror or a friend. Knowing proper helmet fit is an integral step in helmet safety. If you cannot gauge the right fit just by looking, visit a motorcycle specialty store whose experts can assist you in fitting.
- Lastly, before purchasing, be sure you are choosing a U.S. Department of Transportation approved motorcycle helmet or one that meets other standards, such as Snell certification.
- In addition to checking motorcycle helmet test stickers upon purchase, you may also want to peruse a motorcycle helmet review to learn about motorcycle helmet crash tests. Make an informed decision for the sake of motorcycle helmet safety.

Finally, always be sure to wear a helmet when riding on a motorcycle, it could save your life!

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New Employee Assistance Program

Today a new contractor begins providing services for the DOI Employee Assistance Program (EAP). The new contractor, EAP Consultants Inc. (EAPC) was already providing services to about 15% of the DOI workforce and under the new contract; EAPC will provide services to all employees by February 1, 2013.

Here is an electronic version of the [EAP brochure](#) that you can download and keep (hard copies will be distributed in coming weeks).

EAPC maintains a web site and offers a number of convenient on-line services such as:

- Securely requesting EAP services;
- Access to expert information to help you address some of life's most commonly encountered issues.; and
- An online orientation to the EAP program.

To participate in the EAP, simply call EAP Consultants, Inc. at 800-869-0276 or securely request services directly from the Member Access page at www.eapconsultants.com, and use our password: **interioreap**.

Cost

The EAP is paid for by the Department of the Interior. There is no charge to you or your dependent family members for EAP services.

Confidentiality

Use of the program is also confidential, within the bounds of the law. EAPC will not disclose to us who uses the program. We will not be aware you are using the services unless you choose to inform us, or give written permission EAPC to disclose this information.

Employees Not Transitioning to EAPC Today (Oct 1, 2012)

While almost all DOI employees will begin using EAPC today to obtain EAP services, a few will continue using their current EAP provider until 2013 (if your organization is not listed below, you should contact EAPC if you need EAP services starting today).

BLM Oregon EAPC begins providing services on Jan 1, 2013

BLM Wyoming EAPC begins providing services on Jan 1, 2013



USGS Central Region EAPC begins providing services on Dec 1, 2012

USGS Western US EAPC begins providing services on Feb 1, 2013
(AK, AZ, CA, Guam, HI, ID, NV, OR, UT, Washington State)

BOR-UC Western EAPC begins providing services on Jan 1, 2013
(Western, Southern and Northern Colorado [Boulder, Alamosa, Durango,
Montrose, Grand Junction] New Mexico, El Paso Texas, Page Arizona, Utah)

EAP PROGRAM BROCHURE

Visit oneINTERIOR for employee news and events - <http://oneinterior.doi.net>.

(NOTE TO SUPERVISORS: Please ensure that all employees without email access receive a paper copy of this distribution.)

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About National Disability Employment Awareness Month

National Disability Employment Awareness Month

In October, Americans observe [National Disability Employment Awareness Month](#) by paying tribute to the accomplishments of the men and women with disabilities whose work helps keep the nation's economy strong and by reaffirming their commitment to ensure equal opportunity for all citizens.

This effort to educate the public about the issues related to disability and employment began in 1945, when Congress enacted Public Law 176, declaring the first week of October each year as National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week. In 1962, the word "physically" was removed to acknowledge the employment needs and contributions of individuals with all types of disabilities. Some 25 years later, Congress expanded the week to a month and changed the name to National Disability Employment Awareness Month.

Executive and Legislative Documents

The Law Library of Congress has compiled guides to commemorative observations, including a comprehensive inventory of the [Public Laws, Presidential Proclamations and congressional resolutions](#) related to Disability Employment Awareness Month.

About This Year's Theme

The official theme for October's 2012 National Disability Employment Awareness Month announced by the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy is "A Strong Workforce is an Inclusive Workforce: What Can YOU Do?" Employers who ensure that inclusive workplace policies and practices are woven into the fabric and culture of the organization create an environment that encourages all workers — including those of us with disabilities — to work to their full capacity and contribute fully to the organization's success," said Kathy Martinez, assistant secretary of labor for disability employment policy when announcing this year's National Disability Employment Awareness Month theme.

Quoted from <http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/odep/ODEP20120857.htm>

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Sharing Our Diversity by Sharing Your Recipes

From the kitchen of Katherine Chapman – **Cherokee Bean Bread**



I am Oklahoma Cherokee on my mother's side – I have traced my lineage through my grandmothers (Cherokee are traditionally matrilineal) back to the late 1700s. I can remember my grandmother (and occasionally, my mother) making bean bread. Here is the recipe – it's pretty good. A big slice makes a filling meal with maybe some greens or a piece of grilled meat on the side.

2 c. seasoned cooked pinto beans (it's better if you cook them yourself, but you can use canned)
1 c. liquid from beans
2 c. cornmeal
1 tsp. baking powder
1 tsp. salt
2 beaten eggs
1/2 c. milk

In a large bowl mix cornmeal, baking powder and salt. Stir in milk, eggs, beans and bean liquid. Pour into greased pan. Bake at 450 degrees for 20 minutes or until done and lightly browned.

Note: you can also add other things if you have them – I like to add minced green onion. Diced green chile isn't bad either (although it's not traditional at all!) Just be careful to adjust the corn meal if you add something that has more than just a little liquid, so the bread will 'set'.

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RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

October 2012
Upper Colorado Region



What Is the Media Saying About Reclamation This Week?

[Climate, nature tourism, to be discussed at IBWC meeting](#)

[Water conservation](#)

[Water battle heats up in court](#)

[Cutting river flows keeps water in reservoirs](#)

[Pipeline wastes money and protestors' energy](#)

[Provo Jobs: Engineering Technician \(Materials\)/BR-UC-2012-29 \(DE-gb\): Bureau of Reclamation - Provo, ... http://t.co/m0JWYhX0 #ProvoJobs Twitter](#)

[Three Rivers Petroglyph Park -- An ever-changing palette of light and shadow](#)

[Interior Announces \\$43 Million Agreement for Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project](#)

[Secretary Salazar Dedicates Two National Wildlife Refuges in New Mexico](#)

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[Geology work starts for pipeline project](#)

[Reclamation awards \\$4 million security contract to Daggett County Sheriff's Office](#)

[Bureau of Reclamation Meeting](#)

[Sierra Club targets lawmaker who wants to restore Hetch Hetchy](#)

[Climate, nature tourism, to be discussed at IBWC meeting](#)

[390 Acres Purchased For S. Valley Wildlife Refuge](#)

[Salazar in NM to dedicate 2 national refuges](#)

[Board to consider changes to water bank policy](#)

[Utah should take its share of river water](#)

[City considers annexing Lake Nighthorse](#)

['Classroom in the Corn' is a-maize-ing - UBStandard.com - Uintah Basin Standard Online](#)

[Funding options for flood damages](#)

[Water 2012: Can Flaming Gorge meet future water needs?](#)

[Defining 'Beneficial Use of Water'](#)

[Power Plants Aim to Curb Their Thirst](#)

[House Passes Sweeping Anti-Environmental Bill As Final Business Before Elections](#)

[ABQJournal Online » Comparing droughts](#)

[Their View: Cooperation, not lawsuits, needed in water management](#)

[Rio Grande Basin Water Conservation Project announced](#)

[Helping the Rio Grande Basin](#)

[IBWC's Rio Grande flood control projects' wages, records examined](#)

[City puts hold on using Rio Grande for drinking water](#)

[Conservation makes strides in video pop culture](#)

[A scheme in Arizona using solar energy to power](#)

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In Transition

Former Socorro Employee Tranquilino “Trinky” Lopez dies

LOPEZ – Tranquilino “Trinky” Lopez, 84, passed away peacefully on Saturday, Sept. 15, 2012 at his home in Socorro. He was born in San Marcial, NM on December 26, 1927 to Nemecio and Juanita (Padilla) Lopez. He was preceded in death by his parents, his son, Tranquilino “Trinky” Lopez Jr., his son-in-law, Chris Scarborough; his brothers, Nemecio, Miguel, Porcopio, Heraclio, Vidal, Hermenes, Alisandro “Alex,” and Jose Lopez; and his sisters, Amalia Silva, Agatha Lopez, Priscilla Lopez, and Juanita Gonzales. Trinky was a lifelong resident of Socorro. He was a Proud Veteran and served in the US Army. He was a member of the American Legion Post 64, Socorro. Trinky worked and retired from the Bureau of Reclamation after 29 years of service. He loved the outdoors. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and camping. He was an avid Los Angeles Lakers fan and during baseball season he enjoyed watching the Arizona Diamondbacks. Trinky loved spending time with his grandchildren and great grandchildren. He is survived by his loving wife of 53 years, Anita (Montoya) Lopez; his devoted children, Christopher Lopez and wife, Lori; and Genevieve Scarborough; his grandchildren, Austin and Ashley Lopez; and Candace and Chris Scarborough Jr.; his great grandchildren, Cee, Cenyon and Cruz Scarborough; his sister, Mary Romero; sister-in-laws, Refugia Romero; and Marcella Garcia; and many other loving family members. A Holy Rosary was recited on Tuesday, Sept. 18, 2012, at 9:30 a.m. at the San Miguel Catholic Church followed by a Mass of Resurrection celebrated at 10 a.m. with Father Andrew Pavlak as Celebrant. Interment will take place in the San Miguel Catholic Cemetery. Pallbearers will be Nick Romero, Peter Romero, Chris Scarborough Jr., Valentin Silva, Lorenzo Apodaca and Eric Vargas. Honorary pallbearers are all of Trinky’s grandchildren and great grandchildren. To view information or leave a condolence, please visit www.danielsfuneral.com Trinky’s care has been entrusted to: Daniels Family Funeral Services, 309 Garfield St., Socorro, NM 87801. 575-835-1530

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National Disability Employment Awareness Month Trivia

Here's this week's set of questions:

- (1) _____ became blind shortly after birth, this Grammy Award-winning singer has had more than 30 No. 1 singles to hit the charts.
- (2) Americans with Disabilities Act was signed into law by _____, the ADA is a wide-ranging civil rights law that prohibits, under certain circumstances, discrimination based on disability.
- (3) Around the age of 12, Thomas Edison lost almost all his hearing, possibly because of scarlet fever or, as he believed, as the result of an incident in which he was grabbed by the ears and lifted onto a moving train. **True or False**

Last week, We asked,

- (1) May 5, or Cinco de Mayo, is celebrated because, on May 5, 1862, Mexican forces defeated the invading soldiers of France at the Battle of Puebla. **True or False**
- (2) Whose flag has red and white stripes, a blue triangle and one white star?
a: **Puerto Rico**
b: Cuba
c: Mexico
d: none of the above
- (3) El Vado Dam, located on the Rio Chama about 160 miles north of Albuquerque, was built by the conservancy district in **1934-1935** and was rehabilitated by the Bureau of Reclamation in **1954-1955**.

Bonus question: The El Vado the town's name meant "**the crossing**" in Spanish, and it was named so because it was an important ford and trading center on the Rio Chama during the 19th century

Last winner was – **Marian Thornton – Elephant Butte Field Division**

Please use this [link to send your answers](#). To be fair we will draw names from the winners and one person will receive a prize. We will reach into the prize bin for something suitable for the winner...as long as supplies last.

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